

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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R 261015Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 090

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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SUBJ: EX-STUDENT ACTIVITIST TO FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY?

REF: JAKARTA 15043

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO PRESS, YOUTH ACTIVITIST IMAM WALUJO HAS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY RESPONSIVE TO POLULAR WILL, DESPITE CLEAR LEGAL BAN AGAINST NEW PARTIES. IN WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN PARTLY TONGUE-IN-CHEEK PUBLICITY GIMMICK, WALUJO INSULTED PRESIDENT AND ARMED FORCES AND QUESTIONED IMMUTABILITY OF 1945 CONSTITUTION. IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER STUDENT ACTIONS, SUCH BEHAVIOR COULD PROVOKE PRESIDENT INTO HARSH RESPONSE. FOLLOWING BASED PRESS COVERAGE. END SUMMARY

2. IN MOST IMPUDENT PLOY TO DATE OF CURRENT YOUTH PROTEST, VETERAN ACTIVIST IMAM WALUJO SUMMONED REPORTERS TO SMALL SURBURBAN RESTAURANT ON DECEMBER 23 AND ANNOUNCED THAT HIS HITHERTO UNHEARD OF "INDONESIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENT" (GERAKAN KEBEBASAN INDONESIA-GKI) INTENDS TO "SPONSOR"
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A NEW POLITICAL PARTY WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE FORMED BY

THE END OF 1974, IN TIME TO TAKE PART IN NEXT GENERAL ELECTIONS.

3. WALUJO SAID A NEW PARTY IS NEEDED TO GIVE VOICE TO POLULAR ASPIRATIONS, SINCE PRESENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS IS "TOP HEAVY" AND AUTHORITARIAN. WALUJO SAID ARMED FORCES NOW CONSTITUTE SOLE POLITICAL AUTHORITY BUT ARE INCAPABLE OF MOBILIZING PARTICIPATION FROM BELOW. HE DREW PARALLEL BETWEEN MILITARY AND TECHNOCRATS WHO ALSO IMPOSE THEIR PLANS ON POPULATION WITHOUT PARTICIPATION BY THE LATTER.

4. ACCORDING WALUJO NEW PARTY PROGRAM WOULD EMPHASIZE CREATION OF "RULES OF STATE BEHAVIOR", FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, AND RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO COMMENT IN ADVANCE ON POLICIES THAT WOULD EFFECT THEM (SUCH AS SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN). OFFICIALS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO REVEAL INCOME, AS A FIRST STEP TOWARD ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION. IGNORANCE AND POVERTY WOULD BE THE ONLY ENEMIES OF THE STATE, AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PKI) WOULD NO LONGER BE USED AS A SCAPEGOAT AND EXCUSE FOR REPRESSION.

5. ACCORDING SEVERAL PAPERS WALUJO VENTURED EVEN FURTHER INTO HERESY WITH ASSERTATION THAT THOUGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO AMENDING 1945 CONSTITUTION. ACCORDING DAILY ABADI HE SAID PRESIDENT SUHARTO IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY SKILLED AT SOCIAL ASPECTS OF LEADERSHIP AND SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE BETTER IF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP HELD BY CIVILIAN STATESMAN. HE BRUSHED ASIDE OBJECTION THAT HIS NEW PARTY SCHEME CLEARLY CONFLICTS WITH SOVEREIGN DECISION OF PEOPLES' CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY (MPR) THAT ONLY GOLKAR AND TWO PARTIES WOULD CONTEST NEXT ELECTION WITH OBSERVANCE THAT DEMONSTRATIONS ALSO BANNED, YET SEEMED TO BE TAKING PLACE ANYWAY.

6. COMMENT: THIS SOUNDS MORE LIKE PUT-ON THAN SERIOUS POLITICAL PROPOSAL. WALUJO IS BRIGHT, ENERGETIC ACTIVITIST AND PUBLICIST PROMINENT IN 1969-71 PROTESTS (INCLUDING ABORTIVE "WHITE GROUP" BOYCOTT ATTEMPT AGAINST 1971 GENERAL ELECTIONS). A FORMER HARIAN KAMI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORTER HE IS NOW EMPLOYED AS EDITOR OF SUCCESSFULL LIGHT-

WEIGHT WOMENS' MAGAZINE FEMINA, PUBLISHED BY WELL-KNOWN ALISJAHBANA FAMILY. (BEFORE THIS HE EDITED SEX- AND SATIRE MAGAZINE "SMILE" MODELLED ON PLAYBOY ALSO PUBLISHED BY ALISJAHBANAS WHICH FOLDED AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS).

7. FOR PAST MONTH WALUJO HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH JULIUS

USMAN AND FRIENDS IN VARIOUS WILDCAT PROTEST ACTIONS
DESIGNED TO GRAB HEADLINES. IN HIS LATEEST PLOY WALUJO
HAS UTTERED VIRTUALLY EVERY POLITICAL HERESY POSSIBLE
-INSULTING THE PRESIDENT, IMPUGNING THE ROLE (AND
CAPABILITY) OF THE ARMED FORCES, AND EVEN QUESTIONING THE
STATUS OF THE CONSTITUTION. IN COMBINATION WITH
RECENT DIRECT APPROACHES TO PRESIDENT BY STUDENTS
(REFTEL) WALUJO'S ACTION COULD (DESPITE OBVIOUS
ELEMENT OF TONGUE-IN-CHEEK) PROVOKE ANGRY REACTION
FROM PRESIDENT SUHARTO, WHO AT TIME OF MINI-INDONESIA
PROTEST IN JANUARY 1972 DENOUNCED WALUJO AND HIS COLLEAGUES AS
ENEMIES OF THE STATE.
GALBRAITH

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